

Traffic Commission Minutes  
June 10, 2021

**Date:** virtual June 10, 2021 at 5:30pm <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/139262565>

**Attendance:** Thomas Graney, Lena Webb, Lt. Polito, Mark Niedergang, Jill Lathan

**Staff:** Laura Accaputo, Suzanne Rinfret, Jacqueline Stagnari, Adam Polinski, Jesse Moos, Nancy Bacci

**Other:** Jessica Eshleman, Steve Mackey, Stephen Siragusa, Adam Dash, Greg Santos, Bino

Meeting Ground Rules:

1. Listen to the other side
2. Focus on issues, not personalities
3. Avoid questioning motives
4. Be polite

Meeting Chair Jill Lathan, interim DPW Commissioner called the meeting to order at 5:31pm

**Item #1** – Acceptance of Minutes from the May 13, 2021 Traffic Commission Meeting

**A motion to Approve was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 5-0**

**Item #2** – Request for Handicapped Parking

a) 7 Gilman Terrace

- Nancy Bacci recommends approval; space will help with the care of a sick child.

**A motion to Approve was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lt. Polito. Motion passed: 5-0**

b) 10 Tyler St (2 spaces)

- Jesse Moos stated this request is to serve the businesses in this area.

**A motion to Approve was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 5-0**

**Item #3** – Request for two loading zones 71-72 Union Square

a) Existing 15 minute meter, replace with 20 minute commercial/ 5 minute passenger loading zone from 8am-5pm, revert back to metered parking 5pm-8pm

b) Existing pay to park space: replace with 20 minute commercial/ 5 minute passenger loading zone, from 8am-5pm, revert back to pay to park 5pm-8pm

- Attorney Adam Dash, representing the applicant, explained there is a project at this location that received Planning Board approval for a 3 story building with a condition that the Traffic Commission approves these Loading Zones. The Loading Zones will serve all in the vicinity.
- Stephen Siragusa of Design Consultants explained outside dining is currently taking up half the lot. These Loading Zones will be on the west end of the lot in view of the cameras.

- Adam Polinski stated the Mobility Team has reviewed the proposal and agrees with the need for these spaces but also noted that although Traffic Commission approval is required at this time the spaces should not be implemented until the dispensary opens and Adam Dash agreed that this is just a precondition of approval.

**A motion to Approve Item 3a was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lt. Polito. Motion passed: 5-0**

**A motion to Approve Item 3b was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 5-0**

**Item #4** – Request to extend the fire lane at 6-8 Lincoln Parkway on the south side of the street 40 ft. west

- Adam Polinski explained a request came from the Ward Councilor to restrict a parking space at this location. There is a current fire lane then a driveway for 6-8 Lincoln Parkway and then one legal parking space. Cars are encroaching on the driveway due to the setup of the space so they recommend extending the fire lane.
- Jill Lathan asked how this would be marked and Adam answered by moving the current sign.
- Thomas Graney stated people are parking after the driveway at this location and obstructing the fire hydrant and this will give the Fire Department better access to make the turn.

**A motion to Approve was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 5-0**

**Item #5** - Request to making the following curb regulation changes as part of the upcoming Powder House Circle Safety Improvements Project:

- a) Shift the eastbound bus stop on Broadway opp Warner St east by approximately 210 ft and extend the total length of the stop to 120 ft, requiring the restriction of the 5 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.
- b) Shift the westbound bus stop on Broadway at Warner St east by approximately 60 ft and extend the total length of the stop to 95 ft, requiring the restriction of the 4 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.
- c) Shift the northbound bus stop on College Ave at Warner St north by approximately 140 ft and extend the total length of the stop to 120 ft, requiring the restriction of the 3 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.
- d) Shift the southbound bus stop on College Ave at Powder House Sq north by approximately 20 ft and extend the total length of the stop to 120 ft, requiring the restriction of the 5 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.
- e) Restrict the 2 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection on the west side of Powder House Blvd
- f) Extend the total length of the westbound bus stop on Broadway at Walker St to 120 ft and restrict the 5 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.

- g) Remove the eastbound bus stop on Broadway at College Ave and replace the stop with a no parking any time regulation.
  - h) Shift the southbound bus stop on College Ave at Broadway south by approximately 20 ft and extend the total length of the bus stop on College Ave at Broadway to 125 ft, requiring the restriction of the 3 on-street parking spaces nearest to the intersection at this location.
  - i) Shift the northbound bus stop on College Ave at Broadway south by approximately 210 ft and extend the total length of the stop to 120 ft, requiring the location.
- Adam Polinski explained this item is part of an effort to clarify movement in and around the circle. The traffic signals will be removed requiring pushing the bus stops out and lengthening the ones that remain to the 120ft MBTA minimum requirement. The funding is available and the project will move forward once these items are approved by the Traffic Commission. He then gave a brief overview of each item and also noted the College Av side will be a separate request for changes due to a resurfacing project.
  - Mark Niedergang asked if Doherty's Funeral Home was notified of these changes and if they were agreeable to them and Adam stated not yet but they will reach out to them. Mark stated he supports the project but it is very important to notify the business.
  - Stephen Mackey, Chamber of Commerce President, said he wanted to underscore Councilor Niedergang's comment that it is very important Doherty's is briefed on this as parking is essential to their business and there are a number of small businesses that depend on vehicle activity and he wants plans presented to the business owners.
  - Jill Lathan asked when they would discuss this with Doherty's and Adam stated before the month is out. She stated she wants the motion to acknowledge that Doherty's will be notified and Adam assured her it will happen.
  - Lena Webb stated she strongly supports the request as she has seen countless close calls and believes this will make the rotary much safer.

**A motion to Approve with the condition that the Mobility Department will discuss the changes with the funeral home and confirm it with the commission made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Niedergang. Motion passed: 5-0.**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:07pm was made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lt. Polito. Motion passed: 5-0**